



Cherokee Sheriff's Office

498 Chattin Drive
Canton, Georgia 30115
(678) 493-4200
Fax (678) 493-4109

"AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY"



Frank Reynolds, Sheriff

TO: Lt. Colonel W. J. Smith 
FROM: Captain Kim Thompson
DATE: July 18, 2024
SUBJECT: Final Report of Internal Affairs Investigation

1. On July 12, 2024, Lieutenant David Barone began an investigation on alleged misconduct against Deputy Kerrienne Fox and Sergeant Richard Pike
2. Lieutenant Barone completed multiple interviews including Deputy Fox and Sergeant Pike.
3. The findings of the investigation are as follows:

Cherokee Sheriff's Office policy 01-03-02 (F) (2) states:

F. EMPLOYEE RULES OF CONDUCT: 2. UNBECOMING CONDUCT: Employees shall conduct themselves at all times, both on and off duty, in such a manner as to reflect most favorably on the agency. Conduct unbecoming shall include that which tends to discredit or cause the public to lose confidence in the agency or Cherokee County 4 government; which is prejudicial to good order.

Ms. Leslie Maass felt she was only [REDACTED] due to her boyfriend, Randy Pearson knowing either Sergeant Richard Pike and/or Deputy Kerrienne Fox. Ms. Maass explained Randy has been telling her for years that if she ever called the law on him, she would be the one arrested. Randy claimed to Ms. Maass that he has "friends in the county" from his employment with Capital City Electric. Randy was interviewed and explained Leslie misunderstood a lot of the

things he has told her. Randy told me he does not even know one officer in the Cherokee Sheriff's Office. Sergeant Pike and Deputy Fox both provided testimony that they never knew of, or heard of Randy Pearson prior to the domestic dispute investigation in which Ms. Maass was [REDACTED] Therefore, Sergeant Pike and Deputy Fox did not violate Cherokee Sheriff's Office Code of Conduct policy, specifically Unbecoming Conduct and this accusation is **EXONERATED.**

SHIELDS OF SHAME

ALLEGATION/INQUIRY/COMMENDATION-REPORT FORM

I. Information Source:

Name: Leslie Maass Race: Wht Sex: F Age: 54 Date of Birth: [REDACTED] 1970
Address: 359 Laurel Glen City: Canton Zip: 30114
Xing

Home Phone: _____

Business Phone: Cell: [REDACTED]

II. Deputy/Civilian Employee Information:

Name: Richard Pike Rank: Sergeant I.D.#: 16208
Division: UPD Unit Number: E-2

Name: Kerriane Fox Rank: Deputy I.D.#: 16755
Division: UPD Unit Number: E-21

III. Location of Incident:

359 Laurel Glen Xing Canton, GGA 30114

Date: April 14, 2024 Time: Approx. 7:30 PM Case Number: SO24-005061

IV. Description of Incident: ☒ Allegation ☐ Inquiry ☐ Commendation

Leslie Maass was [REDACTED] on April 14, 2024 by Deputy Kerriane Fox with the [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Her boyfriend, Randy Pearson has been
telling her for years that he has "friends within the county" and she will be the one who gets
arrested if the law is ever called on them. Ms. Maass feels Deputy Fox or Sergeant Pike have "a
connection" with her boyfriend, or the electrical company (Capital City Electric) he works for.
Ms. Maass also feels the officers were unprofessional when they "smirked" at her during the
investigation.

V. Witness Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Home Phone: _____

Business Phone: _____

Name: _____
Home Phone: _____

Address: _____
Business Phone: _____

City: _____

VI. Person Taking Report:

Name: David Barone Rank: Lieutenant
Division: OPS/IA Shift: Days Badge Number: 276

VII. Supervisor's Comments/Recommendations:

Refer to the Office of Professional Standards

VIII. Allegation/Inquiry/Commendation Information:

How A/I/C Received: ☒ Telephone ☐ Written Form ☐ Personal Contact

A/I/C Referred to: OPS/IA

☐ A/I/C Resolved on Initial Contact ☐ Allegation/Inquiry Withdrawn

IX. Documentation Attached: ☒ Incident Report ☐ Written Statement ☒ Other

X. Division Commanders Review:

(Signature)

(Date)

☒ No further Action Required.

☐ Refer to _____ for further investigation.

☐ Recommend Formal Commendation.

Additional Comments:

- ☐ Sustained: The evidence is sufficient to prove the allegations.
- ☐ Not Sustained: The evidence is insufficient to either prove or disprove the allegations.
- ☒ Exonerated: The evidence shows that the incident occurred and was lawful or proper DP
- ☐ Unfounded: The evidence shows that the allegation is false or not factual.
- ☐ Policy Failure: The evidence is sufficient to show that the incident occurred, but was a result of flawed policy or procedures.

XI. Service of Employee

I hereby certify that the allegations have been discussed and described to me. I have received a copy of the Employee Rights Form and acknowledge that I understand these rights.

SA 739 (Pike)
Employee Signature
St. Paul Brown
Witness Signature

7/15/2024
Date
07-15-24
Date

XI. Service of Employee

I hereby certify that the allegations have been discussed and described to me. I have received a copy of the Employee Rights Form and acknowledge that I understand these rights.

SA 739 (Fox)
Employee Signature
St. Paul Brown
Witness Signature

7/15/2024
Date
07-15-24
Date

XII. Notification of Findings

I understand that the investigating officer has the duty to inform me of the outcome of this investigation (sustained, not sustained, exonerated, unfounded, or policy failure) and I hereby certify and affirm that he / she has done so. I further understand that the investigating officer is merely a finder of fact and will not determine if adverse disciplinary action will be taken.

SA 739 (Pike)
Employee Signature
St. Paul Brown
Witness Signature

7/15/2024
Date
07-15-24
Date

XII. Notification of Findings

I understand that the investigating officer has the duty to inform me of the outcome of this investigation (sustained, not sustained, exonerated, unfounded, or policy failure) and I hereby certify and affirm that he / she has done so. I further understand that the investigating officer is merely a finder of fact and will not determine if adverse disciplinary action will be taken.

SA 739 (Fox)
Employee Signature
St. Paul Brown
Witness Signature

7/15/2024
Date
07-15-24
Date

Distribution:

Division Commander
Internal Affairs

On July 12, 2024, Leslie Maass contacted the Cherokee Sheriff's Office, Office of Professional Standards. Ms. Maass was [REDACTED] on April 14, 2024 by Deputy Kerrianne Fox with the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Ms. Maass told me she wished to file a complaint against Deputy Fox and/or Sergeant Richard Pike. She advised her boyfriend (Randy Pearson) of ten years has been telling her that if she called the law on him, she would be the one going to jail because he has "*friends in the county.*" Randy works for Capital City Electric. Ms. Maass thinks Deputy Fox and/or Sergeant Pike know Randy, or someone at Capital City Electric due to Deputy Fox placing Ms. Maass under arrest and not Randy. She also feels both officers acted unprofessionally when they "smirked" at her during the domestic dispute investigation. Ms. Maass told me she is going to be forwarding me some paperwork that will show the officers know Randy. On July 22, 2024, Ms. Mass forwarded a seven-page letter which spoke about her time being an accountant. She explained she knows fraud when she sees it. Nothing in this letter was information on how Deputy Fox or Sergeant Pike may have known Randy Pearson. This letter was forwarded to the Criminal Investigations Division for review.

On July 15, 2024, I spoke to Sergeant Pike. I explained what Ms. Maass' accusation was. Sergeant Pike told me he never met Randy Pearson prior to Deputy Fox placing Ms. Maass [REDACTED] back in April of this year.

On July 15, 2024, I spoke to Deputy Kerrianne Fox. I explained what Ms. Maass' accusation was. Deputy Fox told me she never met Randy Pearson prior to her placing Ms. Maass [REDACTED] She also told me she never heard of Capital City Electric prior to this domestic dispute investigation.

On July 15, 2024, I spoke to Randy Pearson. I explained the reason for wanting to speak to him. I asked Randy if there is any truth to Ms. Maass' accusation that he has a friend in the county and that she would be the one to get arrested if the law ever got called on them. Randy told me Leslie misunderstands a lot of the things he has told her. Randy told me he does not even know one officer in the Cherokee Sheriff's Office. I thanked Randy for talking to me and terminated the phone call.

I then reviewed Sergeant Pike's and Deputy Fox's body camera footage. At no time did I see either officer "smirk" at Ms. Maass as she was explaining the dispute she was having with Randy to them. Both officers acted professionally throughout the entire investigation.

Cherokee Sheriff's Office policy 01-03-02 (F) (2) states:

F. EMPLOYEE RULES OF CONDUCT: 2. UNBECOMING CONDUCT: Employees shall conduct themselves at all times, both on and off duty, in such a manner as to reflect most favorably on the agency. Conduct unbecoming shall include that which tends to discredit or cause the public to lose confidence in the agency or Cherokee County 4 government; which is prejudicial to good order.

Ms. Leslie Maass felt she was only [REDACTED] due to her boyfriend, Randy Pearson knowing either Sergeant Richard Pike and/or Deputy Kerrienne Fox. Ms. Maass explained Randy has been telling her for years that if she ever called the law on him, she would be the one arrested. Randy claimed to Ms. Maass that he has "friends in the county" from his employment with Capital City Electric. Randy was interviewed and explained Leslie misunderstood a lot of the things he has told her. Randy told me he does not even know one officer in the Cherokee Sheriff's Office. Sergeant Pike and Deputy Fox both provided testimony that they never knew

of, or heard of Randy Pearson prior to the domestic dispute investigation in which Ms. Maass

██████████ Therefore, Sergeant Pike and Deputy Fox did not violate Cherokee Sheriff's

Office Code of Conduct policy, specifically Unbecoming Conduct and this accusation is

EXONERATED.

SHIELDS OF SHAME

David M. Barone

From: David M. Barone
Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2024 10:43 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Leslie Maass 359 Laurel Glen Xing

Thank you Ms. Leslie. I completely understand your frustration. Please stay safe!!

Respectfully,
Lt. Barone

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 2:32 PM
To: David M. Barone <dmbarone@cherokeecountyga.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Leslie Maass 359 Laurel Glen Xing

This Message Is From an External Sender

This message came from outside your organization.

Report Suspicious

OK I trust your judgement. The way it happened feels like a total setup on Randy's part. I hope you understand I just want my kids and myself to be safe.

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer \[mail.onelink.me\]](#)

On Wed, Jul 24, 2024 at 2:29 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Thank you

On Wednesday, July 24, 2024 at 02:29:14 AM EDT [REDACTED] wrote:

Thank you for letting me know. Have you forwarded my email to the proper department. I would like to speak to someone asap.

Leslie Maass

On Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 10:22:28 AM EDT, David M. Barone <dmbarone@cherokeecountyga.gov> wrote:

Good morning Ms. Maass,

E-mail Correspondence

David M. Barone

From: David M. Barone
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 11:20 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Leslie Maass 359 Laurel Glen Xing

Yes I have. I forwarded it to the Criminal Investigation Division.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 2:29 AM
To: David M. Barone <dmbarone@cherokee-countyga.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Leslie Maass 359 Laurel Glen Xing

This Message Is From an External Sender

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Report Suspicious

Thank you for letting me know. Have you forwarded my email to the proper department. I would like to speak to someone asap.

Leslie Maass

On Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 10:22:28 AM EDT, David M. Barone <dmbarone@cherokee-countyga.gov> wrote:

Good morning Ms. Maass,

I have completed my investigation into Deputy Fox and Sgt. Pike. The investigation shows that neither officer even heard of or knew your boyfriend, Randy Pearson prior to the night of April 14, 2024. Deputy Fox also advised she has never heard of Capital City Electric prior to this domestic dispute investigation. Therefore, both officers have been exonerated.

Thank you for bringing your concern and issues to the attention of the Office of Professional Standards. I wish you the very best.

Respectfully,

Lt. Barone

Office of Professional Standards

E-mail Correspondence

David M. Barone

From: David M. Barone
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 11:13 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Leslie Maass 359 Laurel Glen Xing

Ms. Maass,

Your complaint to The Office of Professional Standards was not about the alleged illegal activity your boyfriend, Randy Pearson is committing. Your complaint was that Randy knew one of, or both of the officers who responded to the domestic dispute incident on April 14, 2024 [REDACTED]

You told me you had paperwork or documentation to show that Randy knows someone at the Cherokee Sheriff's Office, but you only forwarded a letter that alleges illegal activity. Nothing in that letter validated your claims that the officers knew Randy.

I am sorry you do not agree with my findings, but I am confident that both officers were being honest and truthful when I questioned the. When I spoke to Randy, he told me he does not even know 1 officer in the Cherokee Sheriff's Office.

Respectfully,
Lt. Barone

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 6:06 AM
To: David M. Barone <dmbarone@cherokeeountyga.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Leslie Maass 359 Laurel Glen Xing

This Message Is From an External Sender

This message came from outside your organization.

Report Suspicious

Also, is an investigation into 2 police officers only include asking them if they know Randy? With all due respect, that doesn't seem to be much of an investigation. Like I stated if it is just Randy using stolen identities, then I would not have even filed my complaint. I know for a fact that there is a fraudulent crime ring within Cherokee County and I find it unbelievable that no one seems to be concerned. That gives me zero confidence of the entire Sheriff's organization.

Leslie Maass

On Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 10:22:28 AM EDT, David M. Barone <dmbarone@cherokeeountyga.gov> wrote:

Good morning Ms. Maass,

I have completed my investigation into Deputy Fox and Sgt. Pike. The investigation shows that neither officer even heard of or knew your boyfriend, Randy Pearson prior to the night of April 14, 2024. Deputy Fox also advised she has never heard of Capital City Electric prior to this domestic dispute investigation. Therefore, both officers have been exonerated.

Thank you for bringing your concern and issues to the attention of the Office of Professional Standards. I wish you the very best.

Respectfully,

Lt. Barone

Office of Professional Standards

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2024 2:36 PM
To: David M. Barone <dmbarone@cherokeecountyga.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Leslie Maass 359 Laurel Glen Xing

Lt Barone,

You have asked me to forward you information on why I requested an investigation into the 2 officers that were involved [REDACTED] I have delayed my response for several reasons.

Randy's threats have increased. He has been volatile which has caused my pause on going forward with any communications with you considering my own safety. Part of the information that I wanted to send you has conveniently been moved. I can tell you when researching the officers there appeared to be multiple identities with alias names. Addresses that are out of state and trace to a Patricia Fox. This name is one of the alias names used by Randy's mother. I am not stating that this 100% is proof of criminal behavior by the officers.

I am stating that considering all of the corrupt instances within Cherokee County my request for the individuals involved in [REDACTED] be looked into by yourself and the Sheriff of Cherokee County. I do not believe that it is my job to prove there is criminal activity but I do believe as a law abiding citizen that it is my job to report valid crimes. I have reported serious crimes to the authorities since early 2022 only to be ignored by the department.

I find it incredible that whether it is in a particular department that serious crimes would not be in the interest of any deputy within the county. All I have requested is someone to speak to me and review the reasons that I believe there to be a criminal ring within the county which puts all citizens within the county in possible danger. I thought the officers took an oath to protect and I have been put in a position of danger by only doing what I believe to be my job as a citizen to report crimes.

I do thank you for speaking to me. I do want to point out to you the reasons that I brought this to your attention and my frustration in the responses that I have received over the past 2 years. I am respectfully requesting that a solid background check be done on both officers involved to ensure the safety of all citizens. I am also requesting that this email be forwarded to the Sherriff of Cherokee County and the Criminal Investigation Division of Cherokee County. I have called and no one returns my calls.

Thank you,

Leslie Maass

On Thursday, July 18, 2024 at 11:55:35 AM EDT, David M. Barone <dmbarone@cherokee-countyga.gov> wrote:

Please forward me what you would like by the end of business today, if possible? Thank you.

Respectfully,

Lt. Barone

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 12:30 PM
To: David M. Barone <dmbarone@cherokee-countyga.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Leslie Maass 359 Laurel Glen Xing

Lt Barone,

I wanted you to know when I hung up the phone with you on Friday, Randy came out of nowhere and had a huge smile on his face and said "Keep it up. We will See". I think he was listening to me talking to you. It frightened me so I did not get what I wanted to send you scanned.

Leslie Maass

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From: Andrea G. DeCoursey
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2024 2:58 PM
To: David M. Barone
Cc: Kimberly Thompson; William J. Smith
Subject: FW: CSO Web Contact Form | User Subject: Criminal Activiyy

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

See the email below. Ms. Maass is referring to SO24-005061. In the email she is requesting in investigation of the 2 deputies at the scene of the arrest.

Andrea

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2024 2:38 PM
To: Andrea G. DeCoursey <agdecourcey@cherokeecountyga.gov>
Subject: CSO Web Contact Form | User Subject: Criminal Activiyy

Contact Us Form Submission from: Leslie Maass

Leslie Maass has sent in a Contact form. They are attempting to reach Sheriff Reynolds. Here is the unedited message below.

User's Email: [REDACTED]
User's Name: Leslie Maass
User's Subject: Criminal Activiyy
User's Message:
Lt Barone,

You have asked me to forward you information on why I requested an investigation into the 2 officers that were involved with [REDACTED] I have delayed my response for several reasons.

Randy's threats have increased. He has been volatile which has caused my pause on going forward with any communications with you considering my own safety. Part of the information that I wanted to send you has conveniently been moved. I can tell you when researching the officers there appeared to be multiple identities with alias names. Addresses that are out of state and trace to a Patricia Fox. This name is one of the alias names used by Randy's mother. I am not stating that this 100% is proof of criminal behavior by the officers.

I am stating that considering all of the corrupt instances within Cherokee County my request for the individuals involved in [REDACTED] be looked into by yourself and the Sherriff of Cherokee County. I do not believe that it is my job to prove there is criminal activity but I do believe as a law abiding citizen that it is my job to report valid crimes. I have reported serious crimes to the authorities since early 2022 only to be ignored by the department.

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took an oath to protect and I have been put in a position of danger by only doing what I believe to be my job as a citizen to report crimes.

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SHIELDS OF SHAME

I met Randy James Pearson in November 2017. Mr. Pearson initiated correspondence and requests to get to know each other. Very early into our correspondence Randy stated that his dad Larry George Pearson had died on 11/16/2017. I remembered this date as my mother's birthday was [REDACTED]. He introduced me to his mother Diana Marie Hendryx and stated his mother had only been married once to Larry Pearson. I was at first made to believe Hendryx was her maiden name. Later I was told that her maiden name was Scheff. This seemed odd as I was told she had only been married once. When I questioned this I was then told Diana was married to Mark Hendryx for a short time.

Over the years I have been told that Diana did not remember her maiden name and that her dad changed it because her brother could not spell the name. Randy and his former girlfriend named Terese Michele Howard have a son named Brandon Pearson. Over the years what I have witnessed from both Diana and Terese have been full of inconsistencies, lies and what appears to be identity fraud, money laundering, altered documents within Cherokee County and causes great concern on who is involved with these activities.

There are what appears to be fake passports, fake drivers licenses, fake birth certificates and many mortgages on the same properties within the county. Randy has records in his files that prove these statements. He has repeatedly threatened me that he does not want me to call the sheriffs office as he knows people within the office. After my arrest for doing nothing I now believe him.

Below is a bit of history detailing my statements:

In 2017 I worked at Atlanta creative graphics in Alpharetta (Milton area) Forsyth county as the accounting manager. Randy knew where this business was stating that his employer Capital City Electric had contracts in that area. At that time I was told that the company had contracts within the counties and he knew many officers within the counties.

Atlanta Creative Graphics was a family owned business by John & Linda Larson and son David Larson . I have now learned that David Larson is on the sex offender registry and Linda is on the SAM government watch list for fraudulent and criminal activity.

I was released from my position in 2018 stating that they were outsourcing the accountant position. This came shortly after me reporting John Larson to the HR manager for throwing things at me, screaming at me and the overall toxic work environment. I was offered a severance package if I signed a legal document that I would not sue the company.

In late 2018 I was requested to interview for an accounting position in Canton for Agent Assistant Inc. I interviewed with April Cirincione and Patrick Norton. The office was located at 330 Adams Jenkins Blvd canton, 30114.

The office was in a large warehouse full of people on the phones. I was told that the company's Home Owners Network had been sold to porch group and the division of referrals was kept by Home Owners Network and renamed to agent assistant. The company's name was not on the outside of the building.

I was told by Patrick Norton that they were looking for offices to move to within canton. I was then told that they would be moving to 310 paper trail way canton and this was their former office of HON prior to moving to 330 Adams Jenkins Blvd canton, 30114. While at Adams Jenkins location there were several occasions where Porch executives came in from Seattle - names I remember from Porch: Ronnie Castro, Matt Yantzer, Steven Dewitt -Jennifer Hendon the HR mgr. The owners of HON - Scott Forde, Mike O'Malley & Patrick Norton were all owners/partners and the same owners for Referral Genie which then changed its name to Agent Hero and then to Agent Assistant. They also have the name Active Web Group on the bldg at 310 Paper Trail Way which is the name of his NY company. Active Web Group was not registered in the state of Georgia but was the name on the paychecks for employees in Canton GA not NY.

In the office at 330 Adams Jenkins Blvd there were employee files and written orders from HON with client's cc information sitting out in boxes in the room for anyone to take. This office was not locked and there were many people that had access to these records which included employees social security numbers not locked.

Those boxes were moved to the paper trail location and just thrown into a storage room with no lock. I repeatedly told pat and April the sales records needed to be shredded and the employee files needed to be locked in a secure file cabinet. They refused to purchase the cabinet. I took a picture of these boxes that were still there in 2022 before they terminated my employment.

When I started my employment, I began to come up with processes and procedures for accounting and setting up interviews. they were always hiring and firing for the isa team (call center - who worked remote) and the sdr dept. The only employee handbook they had was from Porch (what i was told by April) so i was also reviewing the handbook for changes needed, rules were different for each employee and dept. No consistency at all. the sales team and the customer service team sold packages to real estate agents overthe phone.

They prompted the client to sign up for a 30 day free trial and would take the client's credit card over the phone. This is not legal. a credit card taken over the phone requires consent from the card owner. I repeatedly asked why we could not change the sales process to follow regulations and was told it would reduce overall sales.

The sales mgr did not want me to talk to the sales team nor ask ?s. i had never worked for a tech service company before and was overloaded with trying to handle the accounting and HR departments which also included customer service complaints. most of the client's that complained stated that Agent Assistant was a scam company that they never agreed to have their cc run. What I did not know was that the sales team had a very

aggressive and pushy sales script and the sales mgr (denny/dennis) would basically threaten the client if they complained. This resulted in many BBB complaints and credit card disputes (chargebacks) from the merchant center.

I was working constantly and could not keep up with the volume and I believe now that this was intentional to keep me from having time to look into things more. The BBB account was still in the Referral Genie's name so we did not have many complaints when I started my employment. After I changed The name on the account to Agent Assistant was when the fraudulent company accusations started. I was concerned and started asking questions to other dept managers and employees that had worked for them before October 2018.

I found the sales mgr to be shady but still did not believe that the company was a scam. I believed it to be a family run business and I found their business decisions odd many times but believed that they just made bad decisions and really did not know how to run a business. I felt that Pat had set the company up to give his family jobs, so I worked to try to make the sales process and payments compliant.

The sales mgr would have the team not follow the procedures that I would set up behind my back often. I also did not realize until the 3rd year that they were not supposed to be recording calls with the client and not telling them the line was recorded. This is not legal in many states where our clients were located. They used a service called ring central to make their calls and would change the phone number when they dialed out to clients.

The COO would constantly spy on the employees personal lives using social media. The fact that she was the owner's sister-in-law employees felt they had no choice to accept her friend requests, etc. I wanted no part in reading people's social media and then using it to write them up or even terminate their employment. This happened on several occasions but was not revealed to me at the time. if you were on the bad side of the COO, she would make it

her mission to get rid of you even if she had to make up the reason and backup to termination.

In late 2018 before we moved to the Paper Trail location, the sales mgr started selling our lead generation services. These were large contracts, some that were over \$8k and when I would ask ?s to Denny about who was providing these leads, as no one in the office was handling this. he told me that a man named Juan was handling this, that we were outsourcing it to see if it would sell. I never paid Juan through an invoice or payroll. i believe there was no Juan and that Denny would just sell "air" to see how much larger agents would actually pay for leads.

Once he saw that he could sell this service he started a sales team for the lead gen (lg) services. I was told that we had met a break even point in 2019 - their 1st year of agent assistant. They started adding employees and had 50 employees by the end of the year. I consistently reported my concerns to April and Pat. They also hired a csm director (customer service dept) named Matthew Cash. Matt quit in the summer of 2021. I later found a picture of him with a different name - daryl ames when i started looking into things in 2022. did not understand why they kept hiring if we were losing money monthly and the sales were dropping every month.

The lease at 310 paper trail way that I was given early 2019 was not even signed and stated it was for \$4k a month. I believe that Pat forgot that he gave me that copy and he stated when we finished the financials for 2021 that I needed to add deferred rent for the year for \$2k per month as the lease was for \$6k monthly not \$4k. They also had me enter several other adjusting entries that I knew were not correct. At that point, I began looking into the company. I started with looking up the sales mgr/co-founder and I found he had been charged with securities fraud by the sec. He was manipulating the stock market by putting fake news releases on the internet. I also found another company in New York that was closed due to fraud that he had started selling custom computer equipment that the customer would pay for upfront. he never shipped the equipment - it was a scam. At that point, I realized that the company was a scam company and

there was no way that April and Pat did not know about Denny's criminal background.

I then went back to the beginning and checked into the sale of HON to porch and what they had told me when I was hired. i found pictures of Pat online for a company called Ames Construction and several other employees with different names. The ppp and sba loans were applied for using fraudulent information.

The funds were not deposited into the company's bank account. Pat would transfer \$50k on payroll weeks from his wife's bank account. They had given me backup to a bank withdrawal payment for \$25k for an invoice from Cience. This invoice was fake the address on the invoice was not valid and the company supposedly provided lead development which is what our company already had in our SDR dept, there was not one sale that resulted from this expense.

The \$25k was wired by Pat to another bank account which I believe to be one of his many bank accounts. He charged large personal expenses to his American Express that the company paid for and when I went to reconcile the gl account for amex the bill stated he had over 25 amex accounts. I then realized that there were fake clients and some of the sales appeared to be fraudulent. I have backup to my allegations of fake invoices and clients. I am unsure how many of our sales were actual clients.

Accountants' business ethics are of the utmost importance. I have been an accountant for over 30 years and never been involved with fraudulent activities and I was worried. My name was on many company documents and I handled the bank account and payroll.

I went straight to the HR manager, Jessica Carruth and reported my findings. She stated that they were sketchy and would ruin our careers and we needed to get out of there. She told me they could be dangerous and we had no idea of their level of criminal activity. Two former employees that i

asked questions about the sale of HON to Porch stated that they leave a trail of blood behind them and that they change their name every 2 years.

I started looking for another job and talked to the COO about my concerns with information that I had learned of Denny. She looked at me, asked if she should be concerned and then changed the subject. She never said another thing about my questions on the company's cash and Denny.

I took a 1/2 day off and went to a job interview on March 30th, the day before they fired me. On the way there I had multiple calls from the COO and other dept managers. I ran a couple errands and there were former employees that I had hired following me. The next day Pat asked me to jump on a zoom call and told me that they knew I had talked to former employees and his accountant could not do that so they were terminating my position.

He would not comment on the fact that talking to a former employee has always been done by myself and other employees and not a problem. He never stated what I supposedly discussed with the former employees (I did not reveal privileged financial information). He then asked me to login to his quickbooks banking account and change the administrator which they had access to do themselves. This made me very uncomfortable and I told them that if they were terminating me that I would not try to login to the bank account as it was inappropriate.

I could write an entire book on what I have witnessed and I know fraud when I see it based on my experience in auditing. I know that information I could provide a criminal investigator would help to stop criminal activity within Cherokee County.

Thank you,

Leslie S Maass

Lastio Maass

Randy Pearson cell -

5024 - 005061

DOB: [REDACTED]

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she filed a complaint with Andrea
forwarded to Brooke Anderson in April/2024
asked to look into [REDACTED], & Lt. Anderson
said she would look into it but never
called Mrs. Maass back.

"Friends within the county"
(CAPITAL CITY ELECTRIC)



Unprofessional officers - officers snickered at her
when she told her she had Randy's phone
while in the bathroom.

Called Randy 07/15 @ approx 10:48 (2 times, both
cell numbers) No answer; messages left
& @ approx 4:55 PM;

But Maass into video Miller speaks to